

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03  
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06  
TRSE-00 ( ISO ) W  
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R 111054Z APR 77  
FM AMEMBASSY LISBON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0897  
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN  
AMEMBASSY LONDON  
AMEMBASSY MADRID  
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW  
AMCONSUL OPORTO  
AMEMBASSY PARIS  
AMCONSUL PONTA DELGADA  
USMISSION NATO  
DIA WASHDC  
USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GER

C O N F I D E N T I A L LISBON 2844

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: PGOV, PFOR, PO, SP  
SUBM: PRESIDENT EANES TO SPAIN

SUMMARY: PRESIDENT EANES WILL VISIT SPAIN AT THE END OF  
MAY. AGENDE ITEMS WILL LIKELY INCLUDE NATO, THE FUTURE OF  
THE MORIBUND IBERIAN PACT, AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. PRESIDENT TO SPAIN: THE PRESIDENCY ANNOUNCED APRIL 7  
THAT PRESIDENT RAMALHO EANES WILL TRAVEL TO SPAIN AT THE END  
OF MAY AT THE INVITATION OF KING JUAN CARLOS. THIS WILL BE  
EANES'S FIRST FOREIGN TRAVEL AS PRESIDENT.

2. EANES THE MAN: EANES IS A TACITURN, STONE-FACED MAN  
WITH A NONCHARISMATIC STYLE. HE IS UNCOMFORTABLE ON PUBLIC  
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OCCASIONS OTHER THAN MILITARY PARADES. A TOP-FLIGHT  
MILITARY PROFESSIONAL, HE HAS SHOWN UNUSUAL POLITICAL  
ACUMENT AND PICKED A PERSONAL TEAM OF OUTSTANDING ADVISERS.  
NONETHELESS, EANES IS SENSITIVE TO HIS OWN HUMBLE ORIGINS  
AND ABSENCE OF NONMILITARY EDUCATION. HIS LIFE-STYLE IS  
MODEST. HIS WIFE STILL WORKS AS A CIVIL SERVANT IN THE  
EDUCATION MINISTRY. EANES WANTED TO CONTINUE LIVING IN HIS

LOWER MIDDLE CLASS NEIGHBORHOOD AFTER HE WAS ELECTED, AND HE OCCASIONALLY SHOWS UP AT SOCIAL EVENTS BEHIND THE WHEEL OF HIS VW BEETLE. EMBASSY HAS NEVER HEARD AN ALLEGATION OF CORRUPTION AGAINST EANES. HE DISLIKES SMALL TALK AND RARELY OPENS UP TO FOREIGN VISITORS.

3. POLITICAL BELIEFS: EANES'S POLITICAL INSTINCTS ARE TOWARDS THE CENTER, BUT HE HAS PLEDGED HIMSELF TO DEFEND A LEFTIST CONSTITUTION. HE CAN BE EXPECTED TO VIEW PRESENT SPANISH EFFORTS AT LIBERALIZATION WITH CONSIDERABLE SYMPATHY. A POPULAR VIEW OF MANY MILITARY CONSERVATIVES CLOSE TO EANES IS THAT PCP AGITATION IN PORTUGAL IS DESIGNED TO SPOIL SPANISH PROSPECTS FOR A DEMOCRATIC EVOLUTION. EANES IS STRONGLY ANTI-COMMUNIST AND IS LIKELY TO TAKE A GREATER ROLE IN THE GOVERNMENT IF PCP ACTIVITY INCREASES OR IF RESISTANCE DEVELOPS TO ECONOMIC AUSTERITY MEASURES. TO DATE, HE HAS SERVED PRINCIPALLY TO GIVE ADDED AUTHORITY TO THE GOVERNMENT AND TO GUARANTEE THE BACKING OF THE ARMED FORCES. NEVERTHELESS, AT THE SAME TIME HE HAS BEEN QUIETLY PRODDING THE GOVERNMENT INTO TOUGHER ECONOMIC MEASURES AND A MORE EFFICIENT CABINET.

4. AGENDA ITEMS: AGENDA ITEMS ARE LIKELY TO INCLUDE SPAIN, PORTUGAL, AND NATO; THE FUTURE OF THE MORIBUND IBERIAN PACT; AND ECONOMIC RELATIONS.  
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## Message Attributes

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**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Subject:** M: PRESIDENT EANES TO SPAIN SUMMARY: PRESIDENT EANES WILL VISIT SPAIN AT THE END OF MAY. AGENDE ITEMS WILL  
LIKELY INCLUDE NATO, THE FU  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PFOR, PO, SP, (EANES, ANTONIO DOS SANTOS RAMALHO)  
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